

not so much of in '96. You have evidence. Some of our Republican friends, I've got to hand it to them. When it comes to the budget or how we ought to pay for prescription drugs, evidence doesn't faze them. They don't care about the evidence. They just know what they think.

But most people, I think, in Indiana and the States bordering Indiana—a lot of you have friends there, in States that could go either way—really care about whether what we're doing is consistent with our values and will actually work. That's one of the reasons that I wanted so badly to be there for Julia today, because she works and she gets things done. Again, I just can't thank you enough for helping her.

And thank you, Jeff, for indirectly having me in your home. I hope I can have a raincheck.

I've been trying to visit you for a lot longer than I've been President. So maybe some day we'll get it done.

Thank you all very, very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:02 p.m. from the Residence at the White House to the reception at a private residence in Indianapolis, IN. In his remarks, he referred to reception host Jeffrey Smulyan; Gov. Frank O'Bannon of Indiana and his wife, Judy; Senator Bayh's wife, Susan; Mayor Bart Peterson of Indianapolis; and Joseph J. Andrew, national chair, Democratic National Committee. Representative Carson was a candidate for reelection in Indiana's 10th Congressional District.

Telephone Remarks to a Reception for Hillary Clinton

October 7, 2000

The President. Well, I'm just sorry I'm not there. I've looked forward to coming to visit you in Indiana for a long time. I want to begin just by thanking you and Mel for being such good friends to Hillary and me. I've been with you in Colorado and Florida, and I really wanted to come up there and see you.

And I want to thank Cindy and Paul for hosting this tonight. And I want to thank all the people who are there to help Hillary. I really—as I said, I looked forward to being there. But as I told Bren a few hours ago, I've been up almost without sleep for 2 days trying to deal with the situation in the Middle East. It's quite violent, and it presents a real threat to the peace process that everybody there has worked for, for 7½ years now. I just couldn't leave the telephone and my responsibilities here. I hope you'll forgive me for not being there with you.

Bren Simon. Well, we certainly understand. We do want you to know that Senator Evan Bayh and Susan are with us tonight, and they send their best regards to you.

The President. I'm just trying to get another vote for Evan up there in the Senate. *[Laughter]* He doesn't need a lot of help, but he could use all the help he can get. I want to say to all of you there, Evan and Susan have been

friends of Hillary's and mine for a long time, since Evan knocked me out as being the youngest Governor in America. We like them. We respect them. We care for them, and I'm just thrilled that they've done as well as they have for Indiana and for the United States in Washington. Evan has really, really had an impact on the Senate, and you should be very proud of him.

The only other thing I want to say is that I know how difficult it is to raise funds for a candidate from another State a long way away, even somebody who is the First Lady. But this is really a worthy cause. The other side has raised, I think, between the two candidates that have run against Hillary, a total of \$50 million. So we've had to work real hard and get support from our friends around the country.

She has done so well. She's got a big debate tomorrow morning, and keep your fingers crossed for her. I must say, I'm absolutely convinced, based on over 30 years of working in politics and seeing people in public life, that she will be one of the great United States Senators of the last several years, if we can just get through these next 4 or 5 months. And I think all of you will be very proud that you came there and helped her win. I just can't tell you how grateful I am.

Mrs. Simon. Well, we agree with you, as far as Hillary's campaign is concerned, and we're all here to support her. And I wanted you to know also that George Hamilton flew in from L.A. especially to be with us tonight, so he's a little disappointed, too.

The President. I'm sorry I didn't get to see George. [Laughter] I kind of resent it. You know, when I came here, I was like George. I looked younger than I am, and now I look like I'm about half-dead. [Laughter] I still feel pretty good for a guy with a lot of miles on him. [Laughter] Thank you for coming, George.

Mrs. Simon. Mr. President, is it possible for Ian, our grandson, to say hello to you?

The President. Absolutely.

Mrs. Simon. Ian, say hello.

Ian Skjodt. Hello, Mr. President.

The President. Hello, Ian, how are you?

Ian. Good.

The President. How old are you?

Ian. Six.

The President. I think you're on your way to being a good public speaker. [Laughter]

Mrs. Simon. Would you like to say hello, Samantha? Come up here, Eric and Samantha. They're very, very disappointed you couldn't be here, but they're excited to say hello to you.

Samantha Skjodt. Hello?

The President. Hello, Samantha.

Samantha. Hello, Mr. President.

The President. How are you?

Samantha. Fine.

The President. And how old are you?

Samantha. Eleven.

The President. That's great. Well, I'm sorry I didn't get to meet you.

Mrs. Simon. Eric and Samantha are twins, so Eric is going to say hello to you now.

Eric Skjodt. Hello.

The President. Hi, Eric.

Eric. Hi. Hello, Mr. President.

The President. Good job. I think you ought to bring them to see me in the White House before I go.

Mrs. Simon. You know, we were excited to find out that we'll probably come in and see a movie or something in the near future with the children, if that's okay.

The President. Absolutely. We'll set it up.

Mrs. Simon. Okay, great.

The President. I'm so grateful to all of you who are there. And let me say just one little serious word. I'm also very grateful for the chance I've had to serve, and I'm glad our country is in such good shape. But this is a really important election, because the decisions we make will determine whether we stick with an economic policy that's working, build on a health care policy, stick with an education policy that's working, and continue to change in the right direction or do something entirely different that I think won't work nearly as well.

This is an election that's going to have real consequences for the American people, and sometimes I'm concerned that because times are good, people think it doesn't much matter. It matters a lot. I guess you know that, or you wouldn't be there tonight, even for Mel and Bren and Cindy and Paul. But I'm very grateful to you, and I thank you very, very much.

Mrs. Simon. Thank you very much. Thank you for calling.

The President. Thank you all, and good night.

Mrs. Simon. Good luck with everything.

The President. Thanks. Keep your fingers crossed. Thanks, Evan.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:25 p.m. from the Residence at the White House to the reception at a private residence in Indianapolis, IN. In his remarks, he referred to reception hosts Bren and Melvin Simon, their daughter Cindy Simon Skjodt, son-in-law Paul Skjodt, and grandchildren Ian, Samantha, and Eric Skjodt; Senator Bayh's wife, Susan; and actor George Hamilton.

Interview With Joe Klein of the New Yorker in New York City July 5, 2000

President's Historical Perspective

Mr. Klein. Do you essentially agree with my sense that you had—that the big issue has been moving from the industrial age to the information age, and that—I mean, the toughest thing—

The President. Yes. The short answer to that is yes.

Mr. Klein. —to explain to people is, you take something like—how can being in favor of affirmative action and being in favor of welfare reform be part of the same vision? How can being in favor of free trade and being in favor of universal health insurance be part of the same vision? There are people on the right or the left who would say, “You can’t do that.” And yet, I think that they are part of the same vision. But my first question is, how would you describe that vision?

The President. I think my view—I saw my Presidency as a transformational period, and basically, America has gone through two before. Maybe it could start if we did it in historical times. There were basically—I look at American history in the following—we had the creation—how we got started and sort of filling out the elements of the National Government and defining what it meant. And that basically went from the Declaration of Independence to the Constitution, Washington’s Presidency, and the appointment of John Marshall as Chief Justice—which is a very important thing—and then, ironically, through Jefferson’s Presidency, with the purchase of Louisiana and the Lewis and Clark expedition, and then the next big challenge was, how would we adapt that to our growing industrialization? And how did we get rid of slavery, which was inconsistent with our principles? So obviously, that’s what Lincoln and the Civil War and the constitutional amendments—and everything that happened on civil rights after that was about slavery. But there was no single President that managed the process, if you will, or laid out a framework from the agricultural society to an industrial society. But that’s part of what the railroads, the canals was all about, and it’s part of what—and Lincoln was a part of that with the Morrill Land Grant Act, with the colleges.

Mr. Klein. This happened too slowly for—

The President. But it happened over a long period of time. Then, there was the transformation from the—you know, it happened over a long period of time as we slowly became a balanced society. But then, when we burst onto the world scene as a major national industrial power, that process was basically defined by Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. And I sort of saw this period in parallel with that.

The rest of the 20th century was mostly about dealing with the rise of—first, the Great Depression; then the war and the need to defeat totalitarian systems, which was part of the war and the cold war; and dealing with the specific challenges at home, principally civil rights, the women’s movement, and the growth of environmental movement in America.

So here, we are moving into, basically, from an industrial society—an industrial economy to an information economy, and at the same time moving into an ever more globalized economy, which also is more and more of a global society in that we share common challenges and common interests that go beyond economics. And the globalization of the media has accelerated that.

So I saw my challenges trying to, first of all, maximize America’s presence in the information economy; second, to try to maximize our influence in the welfare of our country and like-minded people around the world in a globalized society. And then, the other—and I’ll get to your questions—and then the third big thing for me was trying to make people have a broader and deeper vision of the American community and how to handle diversity and how we would finally get a chance to see, in ways we never had before, what it meant to make one out of many, what our national motto meant.

And I think the—and you ask me, well, how can you reconcile those things? It seems to me that the two operational strategies we had to pursue those three great goals were, one, the Third Way political and social philosophy. If you believe in opportunity and responsibility and community, then it’s perfectly clear why you would be for affirmative action and a global